seven hundred and seventy-six (15,73,336) seedlings were planted and a sum of Rs. 12,000 (10,000) was spent for the purpose. The survivals of the trees planted are reported to be about 18,30,000. Nine hundred and twenty-one adult literacy classes were opened.

202. The rural welfare centres covered an area of 490 square miles. The amount spent on public works in these centres was Rs. 1,02,824 (1,61,354) and a sum of Rs. 11,294 (36,989) was spent for providing amenities to the members of the Depressed Classes in the rural welfare centres.

203. The number of taluk development committee meetings held was 849 (647). The accounts of 1,521 (1,266) village panchayets were audited.

204. Propaganda was continued to be carried on through these vans in matters of Rural Development by means of lectures and exhibition of education films. Intensive work in headquarter villages of Revenue Circles and in the villages selected for agricultural labour enquiry was continued. Sanction was accorded for the investment of the surplus funds at the credit of the village panchayets with the Taluk Multi-purpose Co-operative Societies.

205. As a measure of assisting Grow More Food Scheme, sanction was accorded for the payment of a subvention of Rs. 2 per pit to the village panchayets and also a grant of Rs. 400 to the village which undertook to build latrines with a view to releasing night soil for manurial purposes. Forty-two thousand eight hundred and fifteen (7,148) pits were dug and the amount spent for digging pits was Rs. 33,015 (Rs. 14,418).

(xii) Amelioration of the condition of the Depressed Classes.

206. Out of a sum of Rs. 19 lakhs sanctioned for the scheme of amelioration of the condition of the depressed classes, a sum of Rs. 18,64,992 was spent for the purpose. During the year, 247 cases of acquisitions were sanctioned and 6,698 houses were constructed in several parts of the State with the help of Government sub-ventions.

207. Encouragement was accorded to the Kannada weekly journal "Panchajanya" which is dedicated to the social and educational advancement of the Harijans by purchasing 2,000 copies for being distributed among the village panchayets, etc.